



## **Hood Canal Dissolved Oxygen Program Monthly Update** **August 2005**

### **Next HCDOP meeting**

- *When/where*
  - **September 13, 1pm to 4 pm., at the U.S. Geological Services (USGS) building in Tacoma.**

### **Scientific Studies**

- *Project update*
  - The Quality Assurance Performance Plan (QAPP) for the Integrated Assessment and Modeling (IAM) study went out for general HCDOP review on 26 August. The document is posted on the web-site and review is requested by 9 September. (Newton, UW/Hannafious, HCSEG)
  - Routine phytoplankton monitoring by Pacific Shellfish Institute (PSI) and Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group (HCSEG) commenced in August and will be on-going weekly through fall. (Newton, UW/Hannafious, HCSEG)
  - Experiments on phytoplankton growth and species succession were conducted by various UW investigators on 15 August. Results will be posted on the website when available. (Newton, UW/Hannafious, HCSEG)
  - The McLaine Moored Profiler (MMP) at Sund Rock was downloaded and maintained by Applied Physics Lab (APL) on 15 August. New data and information will be posted on the website soon. (Newton, UW/Hannafious, HCSEG)
- *New information generated by projects*
  - Dissolved Oxygen (DO), as indicated by ORCA and the Citizen Monitoring, continues to be low this summer. Lynch Cove was reported at 0.2 mg/L, Sisters around 1 mg/L and Potlatch to Bambans are less than 2 mg/L. New inventory data are planned for September. (Newton, UW/Hannafious, HCSEG)

### **Corrective Actions**

- *Project update*
  - Community septic system meeting was held with Paradise Bay (near Port Ludlow, Jefferson County). Sent out a questionnaire to 200 homes to determine how much homeowners would be willing to pay for community sewage system. Will continue to work with them over the coming months to refine the scope of the project. (Christensen, HCCC)
  - Will meet with Clifton Beach community on Labor Day weekend about a community sewage system there. (Christensen, HCCC)

- Met with Mason County and Mason PUD #1 to begin to scope out staff roles for their expanded roles in sewage management. Based on the meeting, there was a general agreement that there needs to be a sewage treatment management plan created for the Hood Canal watershed. The Hood Canal Coordinating Council (HCCC) staff will be proposing to our Board that we lead the effort to develop the management plan as part of the Hood Canal Rehabilitation Program. (Christensen, HCCC)
- Began to work on developing a marine pump out facility in Hoodspport in conjunction with the Port of Hoodspport. Will be meeting with them in September to begin the project. (Christensen, HCCC)
- Completed data analysis of the attitude survey on onsite sewage systems. We will be presenting the information at the next HCCC Board meeting. We will also create a summary document for distribution to the general public. (Christensen, HCCC)
- Presented and led (“Government Accountability and Performance” (GMAP)- ‘like’-exercise on Hood Canal for the Puget Sound Action Team (PSAT) (Partnership) Management Team in early August. Agency contacts engaged in discussion of policy concerns and funding for various activities related to education (to influence human behavior), onsite management and sewer construction, anaerobic digester construction, and salmon carcass disposal. Conclusion: the concept for the proposed interagency HC team was endorsed by the group and will begin functioning right away. (Fagergren, Criss, PSAT)
- Convened the internal PSAT Hood Canal team to discuss tracking and accountability of funded projects and began work on GMAP exercise for agency-funded projects for the biennium, to be discussed September 12. (Fagergren, Criss, PSAT)
- Met with Janice Adair, Maryanne Guichard and Brad Avy following the PSAT – Management Team meeting to discuss interagency work and coordination; similarly with Heather Ballash of CTED. (Fagergren, PSAT)
- Talked with Bernie Hargrave (USACOE) about salt marsh restoration (construction and budget) at the mouth of the Skokomish River (Fagergren, PSAT)
- Participated in a meeting with Mason County staff, CTED, Ecology, and Health about implementation of sewer projects, onsites maintenance and surveys (and correction). Policy concerns emerged with some of the funded projects, and the group decided holding quarterly meetings of this group, with a slightly expanded table (especially to include the Skokomish Tribe) would be useful. (Fagergren, PSAT)

### Outreach

- *Public education and outreach updates*
  - Hood Canal Watershed Pledge Program has distributed 1200+ books and has a total of 76 pledges returned. (Piper, HCWEN)
  - Shore Stewards has an approximately 20 returned applications and have distributed 475 books. (Piper, HCWEN)

- A presentation was given to 80 Port Townsend Rotary Members on 9/6/2005 with the People for Puget Sound based Power Point Presentation. The response was very positive. (Piper, HCWEN)
  - Aly Vander Stoep of UW's College of Ocean and Fishery Sciences Dean's Office arranged for citizens to visit the site where Drs Ginger Armbrust, Claire Horner-Devine, Jan Newton, and Gabrielle Rocap and their students were doing plankton studies. Five citizens (Al Adams, Ferdie Schmitz, Dick, Ann, and Jim Scroggs) stopped by to learn about the work and talk to the researchers. The research site, a private dock near Union, was graciously donated by another citizen, Rick Buechell, for use by the group for the 1-week incubations. (Newton, UW/Hannafious, HCSEG)
  - Tim Steury (WSU), editor of Washington State magazine, the WSU alumni periodical, met on 30 August with Dan Hannafious and Neil Werner (HCSEG) and WSU Extension staff (Emily Piper, Cammy Mills, Pat Pearson, Bob Simmons) regarding developing a story line for water quality issues in Hood Canal for the magazine. The article will be tied to the work with WSU Extension offices. Tim had met earlier with other Hood Canal partners (Bill Dewey, Taylor Shellfish; Duane Fagergren, PSAT).
- *Comments/questions from public*
    - Hood Canal local diver Jerry Erlich inquired with HCSEG regarding the role of someone named "Mr. Lux" and a private corporation to address water quality issues in Hood Canal. No further information was known. Please contact Dan Hannafious if you have information about this (Newton, UW/Hannafious, HCSEG)
- *Upcoming meeting notices/speaking engagements*
    - Shore Stewards and Watershed Pledge will be at the Quilcene Fair on September 24<sup>th</sup>. (Piper, HCWEN)
    - A Shore Stewards and Hood Canal Watershed Pledge Presentation will be given on September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2005 to the Kitsap County Master Gardeners at the Roadhouse Nursery in Poulsbo from 1-3pm. (Piper, HCWEN)
    - Shore Stewards and Watershed Pledge will have a booth at Oysterfest at the Mason County Fairgrounds on October 1&2. (Piper, HCWEN)
    - HCWEN- Next meeting is scheduled for October 13<sup>th</sup>, 1-4 pm at the Kitsap SSWM Conference Room, Bremerton. (Piper, HCWEN)
    - Meeting with Hoodsport Business Association September 7. (Christensen, HCCC)
    - Meeting with Port of Hoodsport September 14. (Christensen, HCCC)
    - HCCC Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet has been finalized for December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9 AM to 3 PM at Alderbrook. Working with Jan, Gary and Duane to finalize agenda. (Christensen, HCCC)
    - Jan Newton will give a talk regarding hypoxia in Hood Canal at the Eastern Pacific Ocean Conference (EPOC) in Fallen Leaf, CA during 27-30 September. (Newton, UW/Hannafious, HCSEG)

- Prepared for a presentation on Hood Canal at the upcoming Pacific Shellfish Growers/ National Shellfisheries Association annual meeting in Hood River in late September. (Fagergren, PSAT)

### **Funding**

- *Funding needs*
  - Governmental cost share for small community septic systems is a key factor to implementation. (Christensen, HCCC)

### **Legislative or Congressional action or briefings**

- *Legislative contacts/meetings*
  - Planned a tour and briefing for Senator Poulsen and a few committee staff, but due to a scheduling conflict, the tour was canceled, or postponed to a later date. (Fagergren, PSAT)
  - Caroleen Dineen (Washington House of Representatives) contacted Jan Newton regarding getting HCDOP presentations to the Select Committee on Hood Canal, which is scheduled to meet in Olympia on Friday, September 16th, from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Rep. Eickmeyer is very interested in the Hood Canal Dissolved Oxygen Program and would like to focus this meeting on its work and results. Jan is working with Duane Fagergren and Dan Hannafious to develop an agenda and speakers. (Newton, UW/Hannafious, HCSEG)
- *Regulations or policy issues*
  - Participated in the August HCCC meeting in Kitsap County, and continued discussions with Dave Christensen on the rehabilitation program; progress is slow until funding for HCCC work is resolved, per ESHB 2097. (Fagergren, PSAT)
- *Briefings*
  - Jan Newton was asked to brief Congressman Norm Dicks on the HCDOP-IAM study during his visit to the Applied Physics Laboratory at UW on 15 August. Norm said he pleased with the progress of the program and especially with the high degree of interaction and cooperation apparent. (Newton, UW/Hannafious, HCSEG)

### **Media**

- *Media contacts or requests*
  - John Williams (Still Hope Productions) approached Dan Hannafious and Jan Newton regarding shooting a video about the Hood Canal situation. Jan met with John and was interviewed about the science of the issue, the work being conducted by IAM, and the approach for the investigation and resulting actions within HCDOP. John will go out with Dan on the boat to obtain information about the sampling program. Wayne Palsson (WDFW) provided John with underwater video footage of the 2003 fish mortalities. He will be contacting Duane Fagergren for an interview regarding Corrective Actions and Education.

John's plans are to produce a short video, with the capability to expand to a longer one, suitable for TV, if funds are identified. (Newton, UW/Hannafious, HCSEG)

- *Media coverage*

**Hood Canal Group Supports Critical Areas Ordinance Changes**

Bremerton Sun

August 28, 2005

[http://www1.kitsapsun.com/bsun/op\\_letters/article/0,2403,bsun\\_19096\\_4035640,00.html](http://www1.kitsapsun.com/bsun/op_letters/article/0,2403,bsun_19096_4035640,00.html)

**Another 'Dead Zone' May Loom Off Oregon Coast**

Science Daily

August 22, 2005

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2005/08/050819123253.htm>

<http://oregonstate.edu/dept/ncs/newsarch/2005/Aug05/change.htm>